

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 1997-239- C – ORDER NO. 2004-524
OCTOBER 22, 2004

IN RE: Proceeding to Establish Guidelines for an) ORDER GRANTING
Intrastate Universal Service Fund.) WITHDRAWAL OF
) PETITION FOR
) ADDITIONAL STATE
) USF FUNDING

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of the State of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the request of the Petitioner BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (“BellSouth”) to withdraw its request for additional State Universal Service Fund (“USF”) funding. The request of BellSouth for additional State Universal Service Funds was initially made as a part of the Access Services Tariff which it filed with this Commission on September 2, 2003. By Motion filed with the Commission on September 21, 2004, BellSouth informed the Commission that it had reached a settlement agreement with the South Carolina Consumer Advocate (“Consumer Advocate”) that resolved all disputes arising out of another proceeding (Commission Docket No. 1999-178-C). The Supreme Court of South Carolina has approved that settlement agreement. That agreement provides in part that BellSouth agrees to withdraw the request made in this matter for additional funding from the State Universal Service Fund.

The Commission finds that in view of the agreement, approval of the agreement by the South Carolina Supreme Court, and the request of BellSouth, that BellSouth should be, and is hereby granted authority by the Commission to withdraw its request for additional State USF Funding.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the request of BellSouth to withdraw its request for additional State USF Funding is hereby granted.
2. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

/s/
Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/
G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)